

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2872
Applicant: Rolf Thiel et al.
Serial No: 10/569,004
Filing Date: February 21, 2006
For: REARVIEW MIRROR FOR VEHICLES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449 are submitted pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98(a) as a means of complying with the requirements of 37 CFR § 1.56 with respect to the above-captioned patent application. Applicant is submitting the requisite late fee for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement after the receipt of the first office action.

There are six references Applicant wishes to bring to the Examiner's attention with regard to the above-captioned patent application. Three of the references are United States patents. They are United States patents 4,603,946, 4,505,539 and 7,008,090.

The other three references are foreign disclosures. The first is European patent application EP 0785103. This reference discloses an invention related to a vehicle rearview mirror assembly having mirror glass and a photoelectric controlled low beam mechanism for the mirror glass. The low beam mechanism includes a photoelectric transducer which, at one end, is connected to a plate fastened to an electronic circuit. A light conductor is arranged around the transducer with a front surface disposed beside the mirror glass and essentially parallel to the mirror glass. Another surface of the light conductor is fastened to the transducer on the plate.

IDS
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European patent application EP 0707734 discloses an electrochromic antiglare mirror that includes a surrounding light sensor 10 for detecting quantities of light surrounding a vehicle. The antiglare mirror also includes a rear light sensor 12 for detecting quantities of light in the rear of the vehicle. An amount of coloration is changed in accordance with the quantities of light detected by these light sensors. An optical filter 77, 79 of a fixed light transmittance is provided in front of the light receiving surface of either one or both of these light sensors for decreasing light quantities of light incident to the light sensor or sensors.

PCT patent application WO 00/55011 discloses an invention that relates to a rearview mirror which has a layered structure arranged in a housing and comprises a reflecting layer and at least one other layer which modifies the intensity of incident and/or reflected radiation. This layer is controlled by an applied voltage which is adjusted in accordance with a signal of a sensor detecting the incident radiation. The sensor is positioned inside the housing and at least one light guide is assigned to it whose end is situated in an immediate proximity to the sensor and whose other end is guided through the housing and to the outside.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449 or the above-captioned patent application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee associated with this Communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0852.

Respectfully submitted,

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